REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, independent claim 25 has been canceled. The sole remaining

independent claim (27) has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 48 as

well as intervening claims 29, 32, 33, 39, 43, 44 and 46 (canceled). In addition, the dependent

claims have been reviewed and various adjustments have been made in terms of dependency,

clarity and congruence with independent claim 27.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all the

claims are patentable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any <u>deficiency</u>, or credit any

overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith

(or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140

under Order No. PTB-4462-13.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in

better condition for allowance, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number

listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____/Paul T. Bowen/

Paul T. Bowen Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

- 7 -

1467035